CAMBODIA ELECTION RESULTS

BACKGROUND

The Agreement on Comprehensive Political Settlement of the Cambodia Conflict was signed in Paris on 23 October 1991, at the final meeting of the Paris Conference on Cambodia. It was the culmination of more than a decade of negotiations in which the United Nations had been closely involved from the outset. The Agreement, also known as the Paris Agreement, invited the Security Council to establish the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC), which began operations in March 1992. Under the Agreement, the Supreme National Council of Cambodia (the SNC) is "the unique legitimate body and source of authority in which, throughout the transitional period, the sovereignty, independence and unity of Cambodia are enshrined". The SNC, which is made up of the four Cambodian parties and is under the chairmanship of Prince Norodom Sihanouk, delegated to the United Nations "all powers necessary" to ensure the implementation of the Agreement.

UNTAC was entrusted with organizing and conducting free and fair general elections, the focal point of the comprehensive settlement in Cambodia. Its mandate also includes matters relating to human rights, military arrangements, civil administration, the maintenance of law and order, the repatriation of Cambodian refugees and the rehabilitation of essential infrastructure during the transitional period expected to end when a new government is in place.

Every Cambodian person beyond the age of 18, at least one of whose parents was born in Cambodia, was eligible to vote. The Agreement provided for a multiparty electoral system and voting was for political parties and not for individuals. However, the list of party candidates for each province was widely publicized. All political parties wishing to participate in the elections were registered by UNTAC. The Electoral Law, which had been submitted by UNTAC on 1 April 1992, was adopted by the SNC on 5 August and was promulgated on 12 August. The registration of political parties began on 15 August. On 27 January 1993, 20 out of the 22 provisionally registered political parties applied for official registration, in accordance with the Electoral Law, by submitting a list of at least 5,000 registered voters who are members of the party.

Voter registration, which began on 5 October 1992, initially for a three-month period, was subsequently extended. When it ended on 31 January 1993, over 4.6 million Cambodians had been registered, representing nearly all the estimated eligible voters in the zones to which UNTAC then had access. UNTAC was not given full access to the areas controlled by the Party of Democratic Kampuchea (PDK).

ELECTIONS DECLARED FREE AND FAIR

The elections were held from 23 to 28 May 1993 in all 21 provinces in Cambodia. Between 23 and 25 May, some 1,400 fixed polling stations were operating, as well as 200 mobile teams in remote or difficult-to-reach areas. The mobile teams operated for the entire six-day period, while on 26 May some of the fixed stations were converted to mobile operation and worked as mobile teams on 27 and 28 May. Polling took place from 0800 to 1600 hours each day, but was extended on the final day to accommodate the remaining voters. Aside from a few incidents, polling was conducted in a peaceful and often festive atmosphere, with voters sometimes walking several miles to cast their ballots, apparently undaunted by threats of violence or banditry, rough terrain or the heavy rain that swept much of the country. The UNTAC Military and Civilian Police Components ensured tight security for the poll throughout.

A total of 4,267,192 voters, representing 89.56 per cent of the registered voters, turned out to vote. About 7 per cent of the ballots were cast in the form of tendered ballots, mainly by voters voting outside the province in which they had registered. About 46 per cent of registered

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voters, or 2.2 million, voted on the first day, the largest voter turnout on any single day.

Three of the four Cambodian parties signatories to the Paris Agreement — the Party of the State of Cambodia (through the Cambodian People's Party (CPP)), the Front uni national pour un Cambodge indépendant, neutre, pacifique et coopératif (FUNCINPEC) and the Khmer People's National Liberation Front/Buddhist Liberal Democratic Party (KPNLF/BLDP) — took part in the electoral process. PDK, the fourth Cambodian signatory party, failed to register as a political party, and took no part in the election.

The count of ordinary and tendered ballots has been completed. The 4,011,631 valid ballots counted indicate that FUNCINPEC has won 1,824,188 votes, or 45.47 per cent of the votes to CPP's 1,533,471 votes, or 38.23 per cent. BLDP has won 152,764 votes, or 3.81 per cent. The number of seats won in the constituent assembly was 58 for FUNCINPEC, 51 for CPP, 10 for BLDP and 1 for MOLINAKA.

At a meeting of the SNC, held on 10 June and presided by Prince Norodom Sihanouk, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Mr. Yasushi Akashi, issued a statement declaring, on behalf of the Secretary-General and the United Nations, that the election as a whole had been free and fair.

SECURITY COUNCIL ENDORSES RESULTS OF ELECTIONS

On 15 June 1993, the Security Council, in its resolution 840 (1993), endorsed the results of the elections and called upon all the parties to stand by their obligation to fully respect the results and to cooperate in securing a peaceful transition in the country.

The Council expressed full support for the newly elected constituent assembly. The 120-member assembly would draw up a constitution and then transform itself into a legislative assembly to establish a new government for all Cambodians. The Council emphasized the necessity for the assembly to complete its work as soon as possible and within the three-month time-frame stipulated in the Agreement. It requested UNTAC to continue to play its role in conjunction with the SNC during the transitional period.

The Secretary-General was requested to report to the Council by mid-July, with recommendations on the possible role the United Nations and its agencies might play after the end of the UNTAC mandate. It urged all States and relevant international organizations to contribute actively to the reconstruction and rehabilitation of Cambodia.

Political Party Name	Acronym	Votes	% of votes
Cambodian People's Party	CPP	1 533 471	38.23
Republican Coalition Party	RCP	27 680	0.69
Free Development Republican Party	FDRP	20 425	0.51
Khmer Neutral Party	KNP	48 113	1.20
Reassemblement pour la solidarité nationale	RSN	14 569	0.36
Neutral Democratic Party of Cambodia	NDPC	24 394	0.61
Parti démocrate	PD	41 799	1.04
Cambodian Free Independent Democracy Party	CFID	37 474	0.93
Buddhist Liberal Democratic Party	BLDP	152 764	3.81
Liberal Reconciliation Party	LRP	29 738	0.74
Front uni national pour un Cambodge indépendant, neutre, pacifique et coopératif	FUNCINPEC	1 824 188	45.47
Cambodge-Renaissance Party	CRP	28 071	0.70
Action for Democracy and Development Party	ADD	13 914	0.35
Nationalist Khmer Party	NKP	7 827	0.20
Free Republican Party	FRP	31 348	0.78
Khmer Farmer Liberal Democracy	KFLD	20 776	0.52
Molinaka and Naktaorsou Khmere for Freedom	MOLINAKA	55 107	1.37
Liberal Democratic Party	LDP	62 698	1.56
Republic Democracy Khmer Party	REDEK	11 524	0.29
Khmer National Congress Party	KNCP	25 751	0.64
TOTAL		**4 011 631**	

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